5

Claims:

 Registration artifact for use in registering fluoroscopic images comprising: a plurality of radio-opaque fiducials arranged in a known geometric relationship;

a plurality of trackable markers disposed on the artifact in a known geometric relationship to fiducials.

A method for registering fluoroscopic images comprising:

capturing a first fluoroscopic image of a patient and a registration artifact from a first perspective, the registration artifact including, a plurality of radio-opaque fiducials arranged in a known geometric relationship and a plurality of trackable markers disposed in a known geometric relationship to fiducials;

determining the position of the registration artifact in the first fluoroscopic image with respect to a known coordinate frame by determining the position of the markers using the tracking system; and

capturing a second fluoroscopic image of the patient and the registration artifact frame second perspective;

determining the position of the registration artifact in the second fluoroscopic image with respect to the known coordinate frame by determining the position of the markers using the tracking system;

registering the first and second fluoroscopic images using the positions of the fiducials in each fluoroscopic image and the determined positions of the registration artifact.

registering the fluoroscopic images.